



Week 14 Wetherbuzz

Monday 9th – Friday 13th January 2017

<p style="text-align: center;">Monday 9th January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8+ ASSESSMENT DAY – NO SCHOOL FOR BOYS 	<p style="text-align: center;">Monday Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No After-School Clubs or Homework Club as school is closed for boys.
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday 10th January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFTER-SCHOOL & HOMEWORK CLUB BEGIN • Young Art Competition Deadline Years 3-8 • French Listening Exam Years 7 & 8 • Wetherby Choir – 8-9am • Swimming for Year 5 – 9-11am • Games for Year 7 and 8 – 9-11:00am • Games for Year 3 and 4 – 1:30-4pm 	<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running – 7:45-8:20am • Fitness – 8-9am • Fencing (Years 3&4) – 4-5pm • Table Tennis – 5-6pm • Chess – 4-5pm • Latin Level 3 Preparation – 4-5pm • Dolphins Development Squad – 4:15-5pm • Musicianship and Theory – 4-5pm (Chelsea Quavers)
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday 11th January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mock Common Entrance French Speaking Exam • Year 7 Rowing at Putney – 8am • Swimming for Year 3 – 9-11am • Swimming for Year 4 – 10-12pm • Physical Education for Year 7 – 9-10:30am • Games for Year 7 and 8 – 1:30-4pm 	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elite Chess – 8-9am • Classical Greek Civilisation – 4-5pm • Cardboard Engineering – 4-5pm • Lower Code Club – 4-5pm • Development Fencing – 4-6pm • Travel and Culture – 4-5pm • Maths Games/Puzzles – 4-5pm • Lower Swim Squad Year 5 – 4:10-5:00pm • Lower Swim Squad Year 4 – 5:00-5:45pm
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 12th January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 8 Rowing at Putney – 8am • Physical Education for Year 8 – 9-10:30am • Games for Years 5 and 6 – 1:30-4pm • School Management Meeting – 4:30pm • Wetherby Voices – 4-5pm • Guide to Senior Schools Evening – 7pm 	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Play – 4-5pm (see rehearsal schedule attached) • Upper Code Club – 4-5pm • Maths Revision for Year 8 – 4-5pm • Upper Swim Squad – 4:30-5:30pm • Fencing (Year 5) – 5-6pm
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday 13th January</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Meeting – 8am • Whole School Assembly at Church of the Annunciation – 8:30am • U10A & U11A vs. Chesham Prep & The Falcons at Allianz Park – 4pm 	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole School Clubs – 2:30-4pm • No Homework Club – school closes at 4:30pm

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a good holiday and enjoyed the festivities. I don't get to watch much television these days but the holidays are always a time to catch up on the Sky+ Planner and sit in front of the box for lengthy periods! As a boy, I always used to look forward to BBC Sports Personality of the Year. Des Lynam was a massive hero of mine and I found his wit and easy going nature so well suited to the format. There is a lot more razzmatazz about the current version but it was great to look back on such a brilliant year of sport for Great Britain and around the world generally. I must say though, that I was wholly disheartened when a group of sportsmen arrived on the stage to receive an award with hands in their pockets and chewing gum. It sets such an impoverished example of a 'sense of occasion', particularly to younger, more impressionable viewers?

Many of you have been asking me about how I solved the gift conundrum for my two boys. I did actually use a number of your very helpful suggestions: Mr Patten, take a bow; the 'Fighting Fantasy' books went down a storm and we've now bought two more but the most successful present was a headset that they could plug into the PlayStation and chat to their friends whilst playing FIFA. I'm not a massive fan of the boys sitting in front of screens for too long but this is definitely the acceptable face of computer gaming in my book. Interacting socially, talking to one another, playing against one another in a private community seems like a great idea. I'd also argue that, having had Patrick and Joseph's friends round on play dates, they seem to speak to each other more on the headset than they do in person! Progress of sorts then...

Lots to look forward to this term, as always, but probably the most significant is the new playing surface at Wetherby Sports Ground. Parents who have been with us for some time will hopefully be rejoicing at the absence of mud in their cars and homes this term and our Games staff are extremely excited about how we can move the boys forward on such a brilliant ground. Sports Personalities of the future then. And these ones certainly won't be chewing gum when they step up to receive their awards...

Have a good weekend,



Nick Baker

Monday 9th January – NO SCHOOL FOR BOYS

As always, the first working Monday of the term is our annual 8+ Assessment Day. No boys will be expected at School on that day.

Calendar Card

Spring Term Calendar Cards should have come home yesterday with the boys. Please check bags and blazers or contact the front desk if you have not received one.

All Year 5 Parents – Please attend

Next Thursday, the 12th January at 7pm, we will be holding our annual 'Guide to Senior Schools Evening'. I will give a presentation on the systems for applications to senior schools, answer any questions from the floor and distribute our updated 'Guide to Senior Schools' booklet. After this event, Year 5 parents are encouraged to set up a meeting with me to discuss options and this is all the more productive if parents have attended this important evening next Thursday. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Citizen of the Week

This week's Citizen of the Week is Edward Hudson in 4B. Described in our morning meeting as "a perfect peer", for his considerate and mature manner, Edward made such an immediate and positive impression on his teachers, with his alert, ready to learn attitude, particularly in English. Well done, Edward!



From the Assistant Head of Teaching and Learning

Upper School Exams (Year 6 /7 /8)

Miss Balgobin writes...

Please find attached a timetable for the Upper School Exam week, commencing Monday 16th January. With many Year 6 boys also in the process of sitting external pre-tests and attending interviews, this is certainly a busy time of the year. Revision has already been taking place in lessons this week and will continue next week, in preparation for the assessments. Please also consult the 'Exams Guides/ Resources' section of the Parents' Area on our school website, for full details of revision material:

<http://www.wetherbyprep.co.uk/ParentsandLinks/Examtimetables/> (password is **Bryanston**)

Please feel free to send your son in with bottled water. We will also ensure that there is fruit available for the boys between their exams. Good luck to all boys; we only ask that they work hard and try their very best. Hopefully the day off on Monday will help with revision.

From the Music Department

Mr Rodwell & Mr Brawn write...

We hope you all had a lovely Christmas. Mr Brawn and I were glad to survive the busy Christmas period unscathed and were especially proud of all the time and effort that the boys put into every performance. We were also particularly honoured that Montagu Square Garden Trust raised £1000 for the Portman Early Childhood Centre with the support of WPS Choir this Christmas.

Our attention now turns to the Choir Tour at the end of the term, but we do have a few other musical dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 8th February, 8:30am – Breakfast Concert, Pioneer Hall

Please note that there is only one Breakfast Concert this term due to time constraints; with the Spring Recital aimed at the lower school, it would be great to see a lot of the Upper School boys put their names forward for this. Please email zacc.rodwell@wetherbyprep.co.uk and I will add your son's name to the list.

Tuesday 28th February, 6:00pm – Pioneer Recital Series Concert with Mr Brawn & Mr Jenkinson, Pioneer Hall

This is a fantastic educational opportunity for musical discovery, and also an excellent chance to see members of the music department in action! Ticket details to follow...

Tuesday 7th March, 6:00pm – Spring Recital, Pioneer Hall

As mentioned, this concert is intended for lower school performers, and Wetherby Voices will also be working towards a performance at this event. You don't need to email just yet, but it would be great if boys in the lower school could have this performance in mind and discuss with their teachers.

From the Drama Department – School Play

Mrs King writes...

It was so exciting to start our Peter Pan rehearsals today- we are so fortunate to have such a talented group of singers and actors this year. Please see the rehearsal schedule attached to this week's Wetherbuzz which contains the important dates for your diary. It would be greatly appreciated if I could be given advance notice if your son is unable to make a rehearsal. The boys can always come and speak to me at school or please feel free to contact me via email at selina.king@wetherbyprep.co.uk

From the Games Department – New 3G Pitch at Wetherby Sports Ground

Mr Blundell writes...

This term the boys will be doing all their Games sessions on our brand new 3G pitch at Wetherby Sports Ground. It's a fantastic surface which is perfect for Rugby. (And no more muddy kit!) This is the first phase of the redevelopment of Wetherby Sports Ground with many more exciting developments to come including a brand new dual purpose pavilion.

I will keep you updated with any news I have going forward but I am sure you will agree this is a fantastic time for everyone associated with sport at Wetherby Prep. As well as the new pitch, we have a bumper calendar of fixtures for the Spring Term, probably the strongest we have ever had as a school, including national competitions for boys in years 4-8.

All boys are reminded to bring gum shields to each session and with regard to pick up and drop off, we will be accessing the pitch from the main Park Club side, as we did last term.



Swimming News – Balthazar Bradshaw (6B)

Mr Bayes writes...

Fresh off the back of being awarded his full colours for swimming at the end of term prize-giving assembly, Balthazar competed in the Paralympic Nationals held in Manchester in early December. Balthazar qualified for 5 events in the Under 14 age group (at only 10 he was the youngest swimmer in his age group!).

He did 5 personal bests, came 4th in 2 events and won two bronze and a silver medal in the other 3 events (50 free, 100 fly and 400 free). A fantastic effort from a dedicated and gifted swimmer.



From Clubs

Wetherby Prep Ski Club – Saturday 4th March

Miss Martin writes...

The second outing for the Wetherby Prep Ski Club will be held on Saturday 4th March at Hemel Hempstead Snow Centre. It will act as a great warm up for any boys going off skiing in the Easter holidays! The day is open to boys in Years 3-8 and there are just a few places left for the day! Any level of experience is welcome and the Snow Centre provides qualified instructors for all of the boys in their lessons. The cost of the day will be £80, which includes hire of equipment, lift pass and lessons. We will leave school at approximately 1pm and be back for about 5.30pm. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to get in contact with me.



Staff News

Wedding – Mr Stephen Blundell

Mr Blundell writes...

Georgie and I got married on 17th December in Claverdon, Warwickshire. It was a fantastic day and we were so happy to spend it with all our family and friends. The ceremony took place at the Village Church and then afterwards at Georgie's parents' house in a beautiful marquee. A couple of days later we flew to the Maldives on our honeymoon where we spent Christmas in the sun. Thank you for all the kind messages, they were very much appreciated.



Headmaster's Good Shows

Gold
10 Housepoints

Silver
5 Housepoints

Bronze
3 Housepoints

Henry Wuytack – Top Trump
Cards

Out of School Achievements

Reunions with Old Gappies in Thailand

Here is a photo of a happy encounter with Wetherby's very own Gap Year Teachers, the Purtons. Roman Joseph (6T) and his family bumped into them at our hotel in Thailand, right before Miss Purton headed off to her posting in Northern Thailand and before her brother returned to University.

They both recognised Roman as he passed their family's dinner table. Small world!



Miss Kirby Wins a Wetherby Netball Match

Congratulations to Miss Kirby and the Wetherby Senior School teachers who played together for the first time last Wednesday. They won 21-20 to a team who've been playing together in the league for 2 years.

We look forward to hearing more of Wetherby's netball success stories...

Photos from the week



Happy Friday! #wpsuniform



More Wether-pugs!



High fives at Horse Riding Club!



4B celebrating 'la fête des rois' today in French

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